

August 21, 2006

PRESS RELEASE

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Upcountry and Kaupo residents asked to conserve water

Due to continued dry weather conditions and low flows into the water reservoirs, **Upcountry and Kaupo residents are asked to voluntarily conserve water.** The affected areas Upcountry include Haiku, Makawao, Olinda, Haliimaile, Pukalani, Omaopio/Pulehu, Kula, Keokea/Waiohuli, Ulupalakua, and Kanaio. If we cannot maintain reservoir levels, we will need to require a 10% mandatory cutback in water usage.

The following conditions existed as of Monday morning, August 21, 2006:

1. Wailoa Ditch
Flows at the ditch this morning were at 88.5 million gallons per day (MGD) or 44.3% of capacity.
2. Kamole Water Treatment Facility
Facility production was 3.3 million gallons (MG) for the previous 24-hour period. The annual average consumption for this facility is 3.4 MGD; for the past week production averaged 4.0 MGD.
3. Piiholo Water Treatment Facility
The reservoir contained 47.7 MG or 95.4% of capacity. Piiholo facility production was 4.2 MG.
4. Waikamoi and Kahakapao Reservoirs
The 30 MG Waikamoi Reservoirs are empty; the 100 MG Kahakapao reservoirs still held 41.0 MG (41.0%) of untreated water.
5. Olinda Water Treatment Facility
Facility production was 1.3 MG. Pumping from the Lower Kula system to the Upper Kula system averages another 0.8 million gallons per day.

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6. Groundwater
The draw from the Kaupakalua Well was 0.9 MG, and the draw from the Haiku Well was 0.4 MG.
7. Total Demand
The total average demand for the Upcountry water system for the past week was 9.8 MGD. At the current high rate of production, consumption is so high that water levels in the storage tanks are falling. Normally, the average demand is 7.5 MGD.
8. Rainfall Forecast
According to NOAA, the seasonal forecast for Maui shows no indication in favor of either above or below normal precipitation for the rest of the year.
9. The Department of Water Supply (DWS) is also requesting customers in Kaupo, Hana to conserve water. Currently water levels in storage are down due to the low rainfall coming into the intake system. Customers are urged to use water only as needed for health and safety purposes in order to extend the supply available until the dry weather conditions pass.

The DWS will do all it can to access other sources of water, including groundwater. The DWS will also continue to monitor the weather forecast and source water flows. Customers can assist by using less water and may check the Upcountry water supply report at www.mauiwater.org/drought.html for updates on supply and demand.

To help conserve water, consumers should check in and around homes for leaks, use water conservatively, and install water saving devices where possible. Suggested conservation methods include not washing cars, irrigating lawns or filling storage tanks or reservoirs. Decreasing outdoor water use is a simple yet significant way to reduce water consumption.

Free low-flow showerheads and leak detection dye tablets for toilets are available on the Hokama Building at 10 Kinipopo Street in Wailuku. For more information on how to save water, contact the DWS at 244-8550. To report leaks in the water system, please call 270-7633.

The Department of Water Supply would like to thank the Upcountry Maui community for their cooperation during this difficult time.

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